

ClaimsWhat is claimed is:

1 1. In a system for distributed computing connected via
2 the World Wide Web (Web), a system for tracking
3 distributed computer power to users and compensating
4 computer power providers comprising:
5 a computer power service broker;
6 means, associated with said broker, for soliciting
7 each of a plurality of client computer stations on the
8 Web to offer for general distribution over the Web
9 computer power in excess to the computer power
10 requirements of each respective client computer station;
11 means, associated with said broker, for soliciting a
12 plurality of consumer stations on the Web to request the
13 performance of functions requiring computer power;
14 means, associated with said broker, for distributing
15 each of said requested functions requiring computer power
16 among a plurality of said client computer stations
17 offering said computer power;
18 means, associated with said broker, for tracking and
19 for billing consumer stations for computer power used in
20 performance of requested functions; and
21 means, associated with said broker, for tracking and
22 compensating said client stations for said excess
23 computer power used in performance of said requested
24 functions.

1 2. The Web system for tracking distributed computer
2 power of claim 1 further including means associated with
3 said broker for determining the market value of computer
4 power provided by each client station in performance of
5 said requested functions.

1 3. The Web system for tracking distributed computer
2 power of claim 2 wherein said means for compensating said
3 client stations for said computer power pay said client
4 stations the market value of the computer power provided.

1 4. The Web system for tracking distributed computer
2 power of claim 2 wherein:
3 said consumer stations requesting the performance of
4 functions requiring computer power are owned by
5 charitable organizations; and
6 said means compensating said client stations for
7 said computer power compensate said client stations by
8 providing a Web document indicating the contribution of
9 the market value of the computer power supplied.

1 5. The Web system for tracking distributed computer
2 power of claim 2 wherein the market value of the computer
3 power provided by each client station is determined by
4 the amount of data processed and the type of data
5 processing used in processing the data.

1 6. The Web system for tracking distributed computer
2 power of claim 1 wherein:
3 each of said plurality of client stations on the Web
4 offering computer power for distribution further includes
5 means permitting said computer power service broker to
6 access, via the Web, the computer power of said computer
7 station.

1 7. The Web system for tracking distributed computer
2 power of claim 6 further including means, associated with
3 said broker, for distributing via the Web to said client
4 stations, said means permitting said computer power
5 service broker to access the computer power of said
6 client stations.

1 8. In distributed computing via the World Wide Web (Web)
2 connections, a method for tracking distributed computer
3 power to users and compensating computer power providers
4 comprising:

5 soliciting, through a computer power service broker,
6 each of a plurality of client computer stations on the
7 Web to offer for general distribution over the Web
8 computer power in excess to the computer power
9 requirements of each client respective computer station;

10 soliciting, through a computer power service broker,
11 a plurality of consumer stations on the Web to request
12 the performance of functions requiring computer power;

13 distributing, through said broker, each of said
14 requested functions requiring computer power among a
15 plurality of said client stations offering said computer
16 power;

17 tracking and for billing, through said broker,
18 consumer stations for computer power used in performance
19 of requested functions; and

20 tracking and compensating, through said broker, said
21 client stations for said excess computer power used in
22 performance of said requested functions.

1 9. The method for tracking distributed computer power of
2 claim 8 further including the step of determining,
3 through said broker, the market value of computer power
4 provided by each client station in performance of said
5 requested functions.

1 10. The method for tracking distributed computer power
2 of claim 9 wherein said step of compensating said client
3 stations for said computer power pays said client
4 stations the market value of the computer power provided.

1 11. The method for tracking distributed computer power of
2 claim 9 wherein:

3 said consumer stations requesting the performance of
4 functions requiring computer power are owned by
5 charitable organizations; and

6 said step of compensating said client stations for
7 said computer power compensates said client stations by
8 providing a Web document indicating the contribution of
9 the market value of the computer power supplied.

1 12. The method for tracking distributed computer power of
2 claim 9 wherein the market value of the computer power
3 provided by each client station is determined by the
4 amount of data processed and the type of data processing
5 used in processing the data.

1 13. The method for tracking distributed computer power of
2 claim 8 wherein:

3 each of said plurality of client stations on the Web
4 offering computer power for distribution further permits
5 said computer power service broker to access, via the
6 Web, the computer power of said client station.

1 14. The method for tracking distributed computer power of
2 claim 13 further including the step of distributing
3 through said broker via the Web to said client station, a
4 process permitting said computer power service broker to
5 access the computer power of said client station.

1 15. A computer program having program code included on a
2 computer readable medium for tracking distributed
3 computer power to users and compensating computer power
4 providers in World Wide Web (Web) distributed computing
5 comprising:

6 a computer power service broker;
7 means, associated with said broker, for soliciting
8 each of a plurality of client computer stations on the
9 Web to offer for general distribution over the Web
10 computer power in excess to the computer power
11 requirements of each respective client computer station;
12 means, associated with said broker, for soliciting a
13 plurality of consumer stations on the Web to request the
14 performance of functions requiring computer power;
15 means, associated with said broker, for distributing
16 each of said requested functions requiring computer power
17 among a plurality of said client stations offering said
18 computer power;
19 means, associated with said broker, for tracking and
20 for billing consumer stations for computer power used in
21 performance of requested functions; and
22 means, associated with said broker, for tracking and
23 compensating said client stations for said excess
24 computer power used in performance of said requested
25 functions.

1 16. The computer program for tracking distributed
2 computer power of claim 15 further including means
3 associated with said broker for determining the market
4 value of computer power provided by each client station
5 in performance of said requested functions.

1 17. The computer program for tracking distributed
2 computer power of claim 16 wherein said means for
3 compensating said client stations for said computer power
4 pays said client stations the market value of the
5 computer power provided.

1 18. The computer program for tracking distributed
2 computer power of claim 16 wherein:
3 said consumer stations requesting the performance of
4 functions requiring computer power are owned by
5 charitable organizations; and
6 said means for compensating said client stations for
7 said computer power compensate said client stations by
8 providing a Web document indicating the contribution of
9 the market value of the computer power supplied.

1 19. The computer program for tracking distributed
2 computer power of claim 15 wherein:
3 each of said plurality of client stations on the Web
4 offering computer power for distribution further includes
5 means permitting said computer power service broker to
6 access, via the Web, the computer power of said client
7 station.

1 20. The computer program for tracking distributed
2 computer power of claim 19 further including means,
3 associated with said broker, for distributing via the Web
4 to said client station, said means permitting said
5 computer power service broker to access the computer
6 power of said client station.